

The State Data Center of Iowa and the Iowa Commission on the Status of African-Americans

AFRICAN-AMERICANS IN IOWA: 2008

To recall and celebrate the positive contributions to our nation made by people of African descent, American historian Carter G. Woodson established Black History Week beginning on Feb. 12, 1926. In 1976, as part of the nation's bi-centennial, the week was expanded into Black History Month.

73,086

The estimated African American population in Iowa as of July 1, 2006. African Americans constitute 2.5 percent of the state's total population. In 1980 African Americans made up 1.4 percent of the state's total population.

31,386

The numeric change in the African American population from 1980 to 2006. This is a 75.3 percent increase for the period.

114,950

The projected African American population of Iowa as 2030. According to Woods & Poole Economics Inc., African Americans will constitute 3.4 percent of the state's total population.

FAMILIES AND CHILDREN

16,916

The number of African American families in 2006 who reside in Iowa. Of these families, 75.7 percent include their own children under 18 years of age.

77.3%

Percent increase in the number of African American families in the state of Iowa from 1980 to 2006.

30.8%

Percentage of African American families with children who live with both parents in 2006 compared to 71.3 percent for the state of Iowa. In 1980 this percentage was 41.7 compared to the state of Iowa's 83.6%.

9.1%

Percentage of the African American population under age 5, as of July 1, 2006. African Americans have a higher concentration of preschoolers among the population than the state as a whole (6.1%). In 1980 the percentage of the African American population under age 5 was 10.9.

3.33

The average family size for the Iowa African American population in 2000. The average family size in the state of Iowa is 3.0.



COUNTIES AND CITIES

21,408

The number of African Americans in Polk County in 2006, making it largest population of African Americans in any Iowa county.

8.1%

The percent of total population in Black Hawk County who are African American in 2006. Other Iowa counties with a high percentage of African Americans are Scott (6.4%), Polk (5.2%), Webster (3.9%) and Des Moines (3.9%).

72.8%

Nearly three-fourths of the total African American population live in Polk, Scott, Black Hawk, Linn and Johnson counties in 2006.

58.4%

Over half of the growth in Iowa's African American population from 2000-2006 occurred in three counties: Polk, Linn, and Johnson.

16,025

The number of African Americans in Des Moines in 2000, making it largest population of African Americans in any city in Iowa.

13.9%

The percent of the total population in Waterloo in 2000 who are African American. Other Iowa cities with a high percent-



age of African Americans are Davenport (9.2%), Balltown (8.2%), Des Moines (8.1%) and Anamosa (6.1%).

56.0%

The percentage of Iowa's total African American population living in three cities: Des Moines, Waterloo and Davenport.

AT A GLANCE

Top 5 counties:

	African American Population	
	2006	1980
Polk	21,408	13,884
Scott	10,425	6,453
Black Hawk	10,253	8,733
Linn	6,752	2,962
Johnson	4,359	
Woodbury		1,019

Top 5 cities:

	African American Population	
	2000	1980
Des Moines	16,025	13,164
Waterloo	9,529	8,398
Davenport	9,093	6,229
Cedar Rapids	4,481	2,743
Iowa City	2,333	
Sioux City		1,015

HOUSING

\$62,100

The median home value in 2000 for those who reported their race as African American. The corresponding value for the state is \$82,500.

60.6%

The percentage of African Americans who rent their home in 2006. The corresponding percentage for the state is 26.7%.

23.1%

The percentage of African Americans whose gross rent as a percentage of household income was over 50% in 2000. The corresponding percentage for the state is 14.4%.

INCOME AND POVERTY

\$27,017

The median income in the past 12 months of African American households in 2006. The median household income for the state during the same time period was \$44,491.

\$29,801

The median income of African American families in Iowa in 2006. The median income of families in Iowa was \$55,735.

\$13,154

The per capita money income of Iowa African Americans in 2006. The per capita money income for the state was \$23,115.

31.1%

The poverty rate in 2006 for the African American population. The corresponding rate for Iowa is 11.0 percent.

29.9%

The percentage of related children under 18 below the poverty level in 2006 for the African American population. The corresponding rate for Iowa is 12.1 percent

AGE

27.2

The median age of Iowa's African American population in 2006. The median age for the state of Iowa is 37.8.

BUSINESSES AND JOBS

1,619

The number of African American-owned firms in Iowa in 2002.

130.3%

The percent increase in African American-owned firms between 1987 and 2002.

14.0%

The unemployment rate for Iowa African Americans in 2006. The Iowa unemployment rate at that time was 4.9%.

65.2%

The percent of Iowa African Americans age 16 and over in the labor force in 2006. The percent of Iowans age 16 and over in the labor force was 69.2%.

62.9%

The percent of Iowa African Americans males age 16 and over in the labor force in 2006. The percent of Iowa African Americans females in the labor force was 67.5%. In comparison 74.6% of all men and 63.9% of all women age 16 and over were in the labor force in Iowa.

Earnings

\$16,617

The median earnings for Iowa African Americans in 2006. The median earnings for the state of Iowa was \$25,216

\$17,303

The median earnings for Iowa African American males in 2006. African American women in Iowa had median earnings of

\$15,769. In comparison the median earning for men and women in the state of Iowa were \$30,636 and \$20,373 respectively.

Industry

5,770

The number of Iowa African Americans in 2000 employed in the educational, health, and social services industry.

19.4%

The percent of African Americans in 2000 who work in the manufacturing industry. Approximately 10 percent work in the arts, entertainment, recreation, accommodation and food services industry; 9.9 percent in retail trade; and 7.6 percent work in professional, scientific, management, administrative, and waste management services.

Occupation

25.2%

The percent of Iowa African Americans in 2000 in sales and office occupations.

1,254

The number of Iowa African American in 2000 in building and grounds cleaning and maintenance occupations. African Americans are represented in a wide variety of occupations. For instance, there are about 992 cooks and food preparation workers; 743 nursing, psychiatric, and home health aides; 644 customer service representatives; and 602 child care workers.

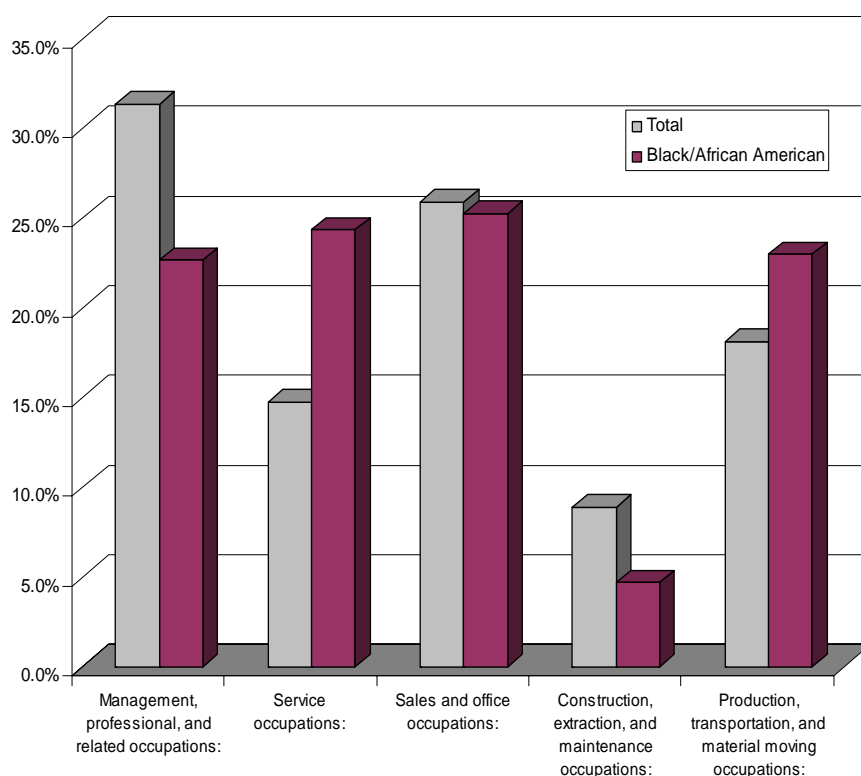
22.6%

The percent of African Americans in Iowa age 16 years and over in management, professional, and related occupations in 2000. In Iowa this occupation accounts for 31.3% of all people age 16 years and over.

26.4%

The percent of African American women in Iowa age 16 years and over in management, professional, and related occupations in 2000. 19.0% of African American men in Iowa are in this occupation.

Employment by Occupation (Percent of Population)



2,892

The number of Iowa African American veterans of the U.S. armed Forces in 2006

State Data Center of Iowa—A program of the State Library of Iowa

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Data Source (unless otherwise noted) :

U.S. Census Bureau, American
Community Survey 2005
& Census 2000
Photos by U.S. Census Bureau's

VITAL EVENTS

22.1

The African American birth rate per 1,000 population in 2006. The birth rate per 1,000 for the state was 13.6.

723.4

The African American rate of out-of-wedlock

births per 1,000 live births in 2006. The rate of out-of-wedlock births per 1,000 live births for the state was 343.0.

177.0

The African American rate of births for mothers under age 20 per 1,000 live births in

2006. The rate for the state was 88.4.

5.9

The African American death rate per 1,000 population in 2006. The death rate per 1,000 for the state was 9.1.

Data provided by the Iowa Department of Public Health publication, "Vital Statistics of Iowa 2006"

EDUCATION

26,366

The number African Americans enrolled in the state's elementary and high schools during the 2006-2007 school year. African Americans represent 5.1% of Iowa's school enrollment (520,138).



35.3%

Percent increase in African American enrollment between the 2000-2001 school year and 2006-2007.

Source: Iowa Department of Education

79.9%

The percentage of Iowa African Americans age 25 and over, who had at least a high school

education in 2006. The percentage for Iowa was 88.9%.

14.9%

The percentage of Iowa African Americans age 25 and over, with a bachelor's degree or higher in 2006. The percentage for Iowa was 24.0%.

4.2%

Percentage of Iowa African Americans 25 years and older with an advanced degree in 2006. (e.g., master's, professional, doctorate.) The percentage of Iowans with an advanced degree was 7.4%.